

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 654

By Hurt

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend former Fire Chief James Harvey Reviere for a lifetime of service to the citizens of Ripley and the State of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to serving and improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, centenarian and former Ripley Fire Chief James Harvey Reviere, affectionately known as "Rooster," is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong native of Lauderdale County, Chief Reviere served his fellow residents as a member of the Ripley Fire Department for forty years, joining the Ripley Fire Department as a volunteer firefighter in 1954; rising through the ranks, he was appointed fire chief in 1986 and served in that role until 1994; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as fire chief, Chief Reviere became the first to hire an African-American firefighter, Greg Baltimore, to serve on the Ripley Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Chief Reviere additionally served his fellow citizens as a member of the Tennessee National Guard, retiring after thirty-four years at the rank of First Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, Chief Reviere served as a deacon for the First Baptist Church of Ripley beginning in 1946 and continues to serve as Deacon Emeritus; and

WHEREAS, while serving in these various other capacities, Chief Reviere also worked full time in the automotive industry as a car salesman until his retirement at the age of seventy; he was noted for his honesty and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Chief Reviere is a deeply devoted family man, and he always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; he enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Mary Louise Hay Reviere, until the time of her passing in 2014, and continues to enjoy the loving support of his two daughters, two grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, through his tireless efforts to serve his family, his church, his community, and this State, Chief Reviere has distinguished himself as a true public servant, well respected by all, and noted for his care, his straightforwardness, and his selflessness; and

WHEREAS, Chief Reviere has committed his lifetime to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Fire Chief James Harvey Reviere for the many years of dedicated service he has given to the good people of Ripley, Lauderdale County, and this State. We applaud him for giving back to his community in so many ways and wish Chief Reviere all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.